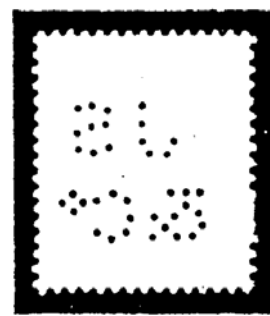




CATALOGUE OF SLOPER
PERFINS
BY

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Perfins produced by Sloper have always had a special place in the hearts of Perfin Collectors as they are the earliest and in most cases, the best produced examples. There have, in the past, been a number of attempts at identifying and listing Sloper produced perfins, but at no time has a fully detailed presentation been made of the Sloper alphabets. It is the authors' intention to produce an illustrated listing showing the styles of lettering used by Sloper. It is not our intention to produce a listing of Sloper perfins but a comparison of the alphabet designs should enable members to identify such items. The catalogue will be published as a pull-out in the Bulletin and consequently be free to members, but, if successful, it could easily be re-published as a separate item for non-members and newcomers.

Five major alphabet types have been identified; a small alphabet used on early examples, characterised by the letters being set clear of the Queen's portrait, the larger alphabet which followed, a very small alphabet, intended for small format 1/2d stamps, the "provisional" alphabet used in 1941/2 and the new alphabet used more recently.

As in all projects of this type, its success will depend on the co-operation of Society members and we ask that you submit examples of Sloper dies to the editor. The easiest method of submission is to provide photocopies of the backs of stamps, together with written details of the stamps involved, but if members do not have access to a photocopy machine, the editor would be pleased to receive actual stamps which would be photocopied and returned to the sender immediately.

Catalogue of Sloper Perfins ...continued...

This all begs the issue of which of the thousands of perfins are by Sloper. The earliest examples are easy to identify as Sloper held a monopoly in the earlier years so that all stamps perfinned prior to 1872 can be assumed to be by Sloper. Unfortunately, dated examples are rare but some help can be gained from the dates of issue of the various stamps perfinned. Examples of SG 43 (1d plates) up to plate 122 can be assumed to be Sloper perfins and those between 122 and 158 probably are whilst those on later issues may well be examples of the work of other manufactures. Similar conclusions can be drawn regarding other issues.

Examples of later alphabets are difficult to identify and we would be pleased to know of any proven Sloper perfins of later dates. The 1941/2 provisionals are distinctive and we would be pleased to receive details of these.

Sloper also produced a number of special designs (such as the first two types of the City of London Arms Design) and we will list as many of these as can be positively identified with Sloper.

We look forward to receiving submissions from all of you, remembering that the success of a project such as this depends upon the co-operation of Society Members.
